

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Published Since 1877

Rising above tragedy — Malawi missionaries seek out Mozambican refugees

By Kim Davis

Southern Baptist Convention foreign missionaries John and Claudia Brown never imagined that their lives would be endangered in war-torn Mozambique in Africa where they served for several years. Yet, after being robbed, tied up, and brutally victimized, their love for Mozambicans still remained.

Although the Browns no longer live in Mozambique but in its neighbor country of Malawi, they still focus their outreach to Mozambicans who live on the border of the two central African countries.

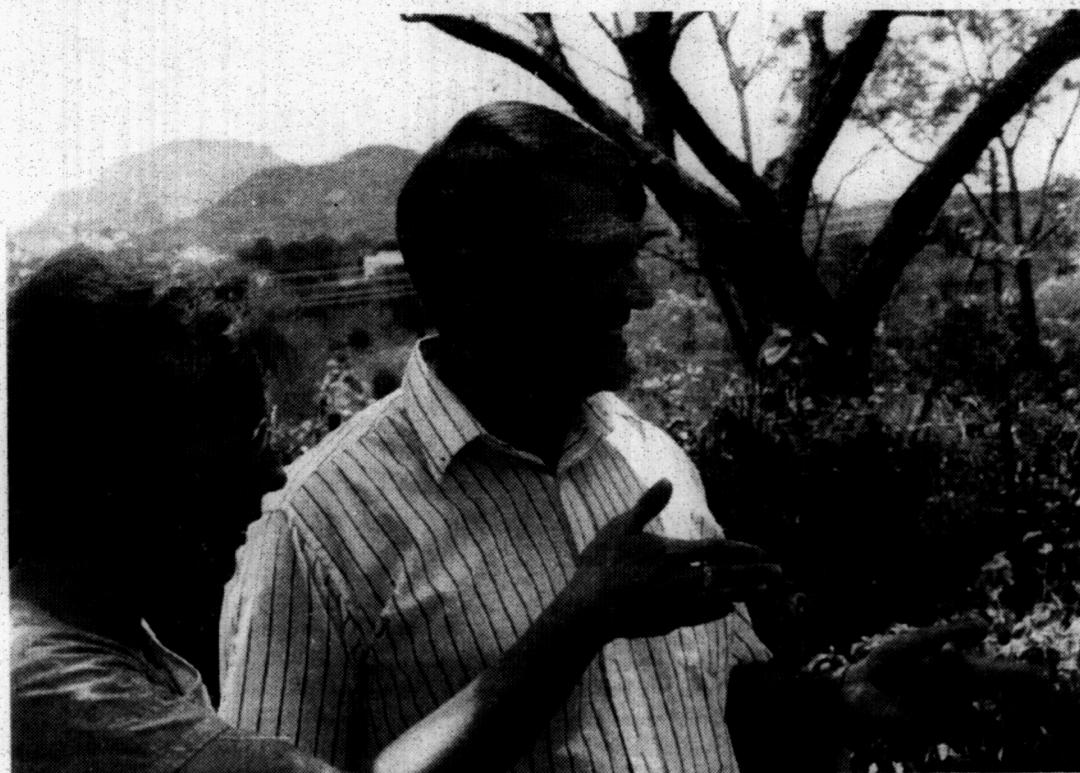
"Because of the (past civil) war in Mozambique, there was a lot of outreach on

the part of the Malawians to the Mozambican refugees," said Brown.

"When the refugees returned, they started churches," he said, "although there aren't enough (church) leaders."

Brown said that their first task in coming to Malawi was to work with Mozambican refugees on the border.

"One young Mozambican named Antonio Sakhulani showed a lot of interest in the things of God," said Brown. "He was a refugee, but one who was living in a Malawian village. Antonio would beg us to come to his village (on the border) and preach the gospel."



Claudia and John Brown, missionaries to Malawi, focus their ministry on refugees of Mozambique's civil war. Mrs. Brown is the former Claudia Tenney of Jackson.

Baseball as evangelism

America's favorite sports pastime has a bright future in Russia as an evangelism tool, according to a missionary working in Tambov, Russia, under the International Service Corps program of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. "My son wanted to play 'catch,'" said Clay Cartwright. "I took him to the dilapidated-looking playground outside our Russian apartment with a glove, bat, and ball. By the time we came inside an hour later, we had left 20 boys wanting to play some more," he reported. With the help of an interpreter, Cartwright soon organized the neighborhood children into traditional baseball teams and instituted a devotional time during each game. Since the game was so new to the Russian children, typical scores were 40-38 — after five innings. As more and more children showed up to play, equipment became a problem until Kentucky Baptists, under a two-year partnership with Russian Baptists, shipped three suitcases stuffed with 20 baseball gloves, 40 softballs, 50 baseball caps, and more than 20 bats. Now if they can just avoid a labor strike....

"Moving" experience

Ron Pracht still recalls the moment when panic entered his mind. The evening presentation of the film "Jesus" had just ended in the small village of Perraj, Albania — the former communist and officially atheist Eastern European country that had once treated Christians so cruelly. The large crowd began to move and, "all of a sudden people jumped up and started running forward," said the senior pastor of Olivet Church in Wichita, Kan. Mindful of the hostilities endured by Christian groups behind the former Iron Curtain, his heart raced as he braced for the worst. He soon discovered the people meant no harm. "They were running forward to hear more about Jesus," Pracht said. The response was unlike anything he had ever seen, and it's something he'll never forget. In Albania, Pracht said, he was able to identify with the apostle Paul, who took the gospel to people who had never heard it before. "I have to go back. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the world," he said.

Looking Back...

10 years ago

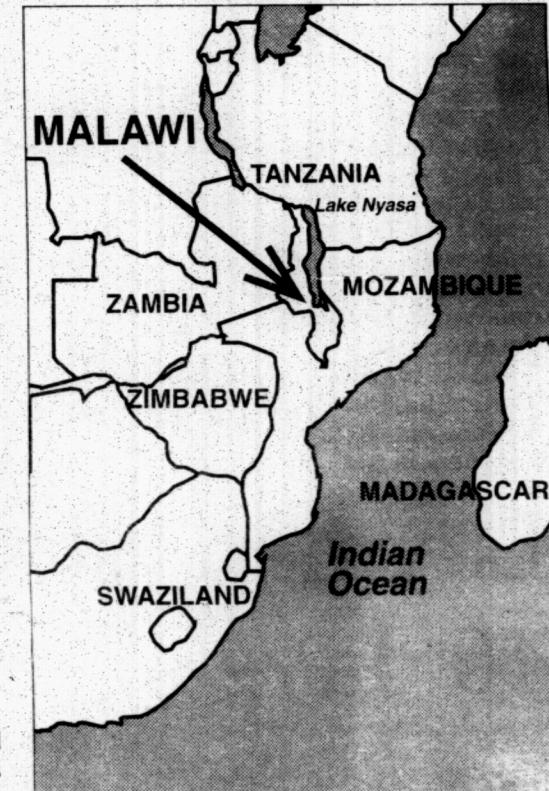
New Orleans Seminary announces plans to renovate the 119,000-square-foot, vacant Maison Blanche department store next door to the seminary, converting the 6.5-acre property into a student center and office complex.

20 years ago

Baptists are warned that a branch of the cult calling itself the "Unification Church" has reportedly been organized in Jackson and is attempting street corner sales of candles, flowers, and candy to unwitting Mississippians.

50 years ago

Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, licenses two brothers on the same day to the ministry. John and James Gilbert, sons of Lauderdale County Missionary Martin Gilbert, announced just days after returning from World War II that they had been called to preach.



nice clothing, and they were handing us their offering to help cover the cost of the petrol.

"I turned to the pastor's wife," she continued, "and removed the sash I was wearing around my waist and gave it to her. This was indeed the most deeply felt lesson in stewardship I had ever received, for these who had so little had given me so much."

The Browns transferred to Malawi two years ago. John and Claudia are from Star City, Ark., and Jackson, respectively. She is the former Claudia Tenney. They have three children, Heather, Jason, and Joshua.

Davis is a BP foreign correspondent in South Africa.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

The high calling

Last year in Mississippi 52 pastors and 11 other staff members were terminated. In the Southern Baptist Convention more than 1,400 staff personnel were let go.

These figures in no way measure the grief, difficulties in relocating, children changing schools and friends, plus the huge loss in self-esteem for the pastor and congregation.

Why this feeding frenzy on church staff members? When they were first called to the church, there was such expectation and excitement. What happened? Are we doing all we can do to mend the brokenness of pastors and people?

Lyn Cryderman of Zondervan Publishing wrote an article entitled, "Can the Sheep Save Their Shepherds," in **Christianity Today** (Nov. 13, 1995). He maintains there must be a "revival of commitment to America's forgotten shepherds."

The focus has moved away from the local pastor to the high-profile leaders in media ministries. Often this has set the agenda for

the expectations of the local church. This shift from local pastors to national leadership has devalued the role of the local church pastor.

One denominational leader in the Midwest said that half the pastors in his district have expressed a desire to leave the ministry. Today we have the highest-educated professional corps of ministers in history. Then why all the defeated men who labor in the trenches?

Complex problems experienced by individual members and the expectation for their pastor to walk personally with them during those times places a heavy emotional and physical load on any person.

There has also been an erosion of esteem. The respect for clergymen has lessened. A Barna Research report revealed that 700 adults were surveyed and only 10% thought the clergy performance was "excellent." Public perception has been inflamed by scandals in the pulpit.

Pastors themselves see the "mega-church" placing huge

expectations on them.

Churches want a preacher like Chuck Swindoll, or a church manager like Bill Hybel of Willow Creek, Ill. Pastors get great ideas, but have to return to the single-staff church with limited budgets. This creates frustrations and can be the cause of feeling like a failure when everyone around you is successful.

The Promise Keepers organization has found evidence that a single act of appreciation does wonders for pastor and people. Adequate compensation, opportunities for professional development, and additional staff as the work load grows could alleviate some problems.

Churches and pastors would do well to consult with Louis Smith of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church-Minister Relations Department. He has information and trained counselors which could spare headaches for congregations and staff personnel.

Yes, the sheep can save the shepherd as they nurture the person who has a calling to "feed the flock of God."

Laymen "turn the tables," set 40 days of prayer for pastors

MEMPHIS (BP) — Ever since the first Baptist Men's Day in 1933, Southern Baptist laymen have been recognized for their contributions in magnifying the ministries of their churches.

On Jan. 28, 1996, Baptist men will "turn the tables" and begin a 40-day season of prayer for their pastors based on the Brotherhood Commission's latest guided prayer booklet, "Pray for Your Pastor."

"This Baptist Men's Day emphasis underlines a longtime core belief of the Brotherhood Commission that pastors are the most important people in Brotherhood work," said James D. Williams, Brotherhood Commission president. "That's because missions education must have the support of pastors if Southern Baptists are going to maintain their commitment to world evangelization."

There's another reason for this year's emphasis: Pastors just need to be lifted up.

"American churches need strong, visionary pastoral leadership, and it's time for us to support them," said Jim Burton, director of Men's Ministries at the Brotherhood Commission.

"We know that being the pastor is a very difficult and sometimes lonely job. They face high levels of stress and burnout. A pastor needs the spiritual intercession of his congregation, and they need to be ready to intercede for him."

The booklet is similar in size and format to "Pray for the President," introduced by the Brotherhood Commission in 1993 and since selling more than 350,000 copies.

"Pray for Your Pastor," authored by Edwin E. Scott, pastor of Goodwood Church in Baton Rouge, La., provides a daily routine of Scripture reading and specific prayer suggestions. For example, "Day 1" directs the reader to Ephesians 6:4, and then asks him to "pray for your pastor as he shows Christ to his children and family... and for the witness of your pastor's family in their neighborhood."

"All the requests are focused on the particular needs that the pastor has," said Don Aycock, a former pastor who now directs special projects like Pray for Your Pastor for the Brotherhood Commission. "Not only does it help the pastor, but it also helps the people in their prayer life by

putting them in the shoes of the pastor for a while."

The process also can defuse some of the tension that may exist in certain situations, according to Aycock.

"It can draw people closer to the pastor, defusing some of that tension. It works both ways, too. When the pastor knows that his people are praying for him, naturally he would feel closer to them."

Aycock added deacon chairmen or church Brotherhood directors should take the lead in using "Pray for Your Pastor" and order a copy for every family active in the church.

The booklets are made to fit inside a man's shirt pocket, measuring four-and-one-half inches by three inches, "so we hope they will haul it around and pray for their pastor wherever they go," Aycock said.

"Can you imagine what would happen in our churches if our people were praying for their pastors over 40 days?" he asked. "Can you imagine how much good would come out of that?"

To order "Pray for Your Pastor," contact the Brotherhood Commission at (800) 727-6466.

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Guy Henderson

PRAY FOR YOUR

PASTOR

A 40-DAY INTERCESSORY PRAYER PLAN

BAPTIST
MEN'S DAY
JANUARY 28, 1996
"LIVING GOD'S WORD"

THE FRAGMENTS

First day — first time

I knew it would be difficult. We had just moved to South City, USA, and customs and habits of the old country die hard. Apparently the best day care center was in a church and we enrolled our son. Visitors from the church later came to our home and invited us to attend services. Perhaps this was required if we kept our son in day care; they didn't say and I was fearful of asking.

Next Sunday we attended. Our son knew the "ropes" already and happily skipped into his group. My wife and I were not quite as eager and with apprehension began searching for our "class."

No one was at the door. The "visitors' center" was empty. Finally a man came by and told me the men's class was down the hall to the right, then down a flight of stairs, pass the fellowship hall to the Jacobean Class.

I didn't know the fellowship

hall was a building — I thought of it as a long corridor. He didn't know about a class for women but "just ask somebody in the hall."

Eventually a woman took my wife to a class, but the Jacobeans must have moved or I was lost. People were friendly to each other but when I came up there was an embarrassing silence.

In the class I was handed an envelope and told to fill it out. The teacher said they were happy to have visitors and went on with the class. He taught a good lesson.

In the worship "hour" we were pointed out as visitors and had to stand. Then we shook hands and had to fill out another card. Baptists love cards. The pastor was friendly. We may go back; the second Sunday is bound to be easier.

This is just a parable. It never took place — but then, perhaps it takes place every Sunday.

— GH

Creed is new Truett dean

WACO, Texas (ABP) — Brad Creed, associate dean of Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary since 1993, was elected dean of the seminary in Waco, Texas, on Jan. 19. Creed's election by Baylor's board of regents is effective immediately, according to officials at the university. Creed succeeds Robert Sloan, the first Truett Seminary dean, who was elected president of Baylor last year. Since, Russell Dilley, former president of Southwestern University who now teaches preaching at Truett, has been acting dean. Creed is a 1979 Baylor graduate with master's and doctor's degrees from Southwestern Seminary. He has pastored three Baptist churches: First Church, Natchitoches, La.; McCart Meadows Church and Wheatland Church, both in Fort Worth.

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Nobles pleads guilty to charges; transfers properties and stock

By William H. Perkins Jr.

Former Mississippi College President Lewis Nobles entered guilty pleas Jan. 17 in Jackson to five counts of a 20-count federal indictment that charged him with diverting to his personal use a number of large donations intended for the Baptist-affiliated college in Clinton.

The charges to which Nobles pleaded guilty include money laundering, mail fraud, and tax fraud.

The remainder of the charges will presumably not be prosecuted under the plea agreement reached with Brad Pigott, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi.

"In pleading guilty, Nobles admitted that continually during a period of more than 16 years, he devised and perpetrated a scheme to defraud Mississippi College (MC) of money which private donors had intended to go to the benefit of the college and its students," Pigott said.

Pigott pointed out that Nobles signed a "Stipulation of Facts" in which he admitted most of the funds

were expended by him as large cash transactions, including payments to banks and brokerage houses, real estate investments, gifts, and other expenditures — none of which were related to his official duties as MC president.

As part of the plea agreement,

Guilty pleas:

Count 1

Nobles falsely presented letter and receipt to Ted C. McCullough acknowledging wire transfer of \$97,125 gift to Mississippi College.

Count 2

Nobles falsely presented letter and receipt to Robert M. Hearin acknowledging \$100,000 gift to Mississippi College.



Nobles

Count 7

Nobles unlawfully moved McCullough's gift through a number of bank accounts controlled by himself.

Count 17

Nobles wilfully evaded a large part of income tax owed to U.S. government in 1989.

Count 18

Nobles wilfully evaded a large part of income tax owed to U.S. government in 1990.

Nobles also transferred directly to the college several land and stock accounts which the government alleged were "proceeds of Nobles' fraudulent scheme."

Pigott estimated the value of the transferred assets at up to \$500,000.

The Stipulation of Facts specifically mentions two donations allegedly diverted by Nobles: a Nov. 7, 1989, gift of stock from Ted C. McCullough with a cash value of \$97,125; and a Sept. 6, 1990, gift of \$100,000 from the Robert M. Hearin Foundation of Jackson. McCullough's address was not listed.

The Stipulation of Facts also states that Nobles' wife Joy "had no knowledge of, nor was she an accomplice in, any wrongdoing involving any funds of Mississippi College," and that in the filing of income tax returns, "Mrs. Nobles had no knowledge of... the falsity of those returns."

U.S. District Judge William Barbour of Jackson set April 15 as Nobles' sentencing date.

Legislators open '96 session; tackle over 1,000 proposals

By Paul G. Jones II and Elizabeth K. Holmes

Over 1,000 bills have been introduced in the 1996 session of the Mississippi Legislature, as of Tuesday, Jan. 16. A number of these bills are of concern to Mississippi Baptists.

House Bill (HB) 319 prohibits an abortion facility within 1,500 feet of a church, school, or kindergarten.

Two bills, *HB 681* and *Senate Bill (SB) 2183*, mandate that the Mississippi State Department of Health (MDOH) enforce the abortion informed consent law.

These bills also reflect the belief that MDOH is not demanding compliance with current state law regarding abortion facilities.

HB 37, HB 272, HB 279, HB 450, SB 2213, and SB 2249 lower blood alcohol content (BAC) levels required for conviction of driving under the influence (DUI), including drivers under 21 years of age.

Other bills strengthen DUI penalties by prohibiting suspension of DUI sentences (*HB 284*); revising the grounds for suspension of a driver's license for DUI (*HB 149*); and requiring BAC test results be forwarded to insurance carriers (*SB 2026*).

A pair of bills require posting of health-related alcohol warnings at point of sale (*HB 427* and *HB 659*), and one bill increases the fine for selling alcohol to a minor (*HB 275*).

On the other hand, *HB 77* and *HB 522* permit "limited amounts" of alcohol for personal use in dry counties, and *HB 86* legalizes "brew pubs."

Brew pubs as defined in the bill are eating establishments in which beer or malt beverages are

manufactured on the premises for retail consumption at the establishment.

Two bills permit the posting of historical documents containing religious references in public schools (*HB 322* and *HB 831*). One bill requires a moment of "quiet reflection and contemplation" at the beginning of each school day (*HB 520*).

HB 616 authorizes ministers to visit offenders in jails and other correctional institutions.

A proposed constitutional amendment, *House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 3*, protects the rights of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children.

HB 652 provides for the teaching of abstinence as a method of birth control in the comprehensive school health education program.

A large number of bills involving family matters have been introduced.

HB 59 removes the presumption that child custody should be awarded to the mother during divorce. *HB 778* establishes a statewide curfew for minors.

HB 123 provides a \$5,000 income tax credit for adoption of a child. *HB 457* prohibits rental of motel rooms for less than 24 hours to unmarried persons under 18 years of age.

HB 66 is another attempt to ease divorce on the grounds of irreconcilable differences.

The gambling industry continues to expand its tentacles across the state.

HB 700 legalizes gambling in every county that does not reject (See **LEGISLATION** on page 5)



Bill Richards (right) of Live Oak, Fla., a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Mission Service Corps volunteer, discusses North Delta Association mission projects with Lucille Knight of Clarksdale, North Delta's Volunteer of the Year in 1994. In front of Knight is the homemade crucifix Richards uses to explain the plan of salvation to lost people during his volunteer assignments. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Southern Baptist home missionaries filling important roles in Mississippi Delta ministry

By M.C. Johnson

North Delta Association, headquartered in Clarksdale and serving Coahoma, Quitman, and Tunica Counties, was "home" for a pair of dedicated couples serving under the Mission Service Corps program of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Tony and Marilyn Mosley of Stapleton, Ala., arrived in Clarksdale Sept. 1, 1995 and completed their work on Dec. 8, 1995.

Bill and Emily Richards of Live Oak, Fla., worked with the association in June, July, and August of 1995.

The Richards are veterans of many mission trips, but this was the first extended trip for the Mosleys under the Mission Service Corps program.

Tony is a retired construction pipe welder, and Marilyn retired last year from her job as judicial court assistant for the circuit court of Baldwin County, Ala.

During their assignment at North Delta Association, Tony was busy making much-needed repairs to facilities owned and operated by the association. Marilyn worked as the secretary for the association's Ministry Center in Clarksdale.

The Mosleys lived in their five-wheel camper, which was parked on association

property in Clarksdale. They paid all their own expenses.

During the Richards' assignment, Bill worked in the Ministry Center office in Clarksdale and Emily worked primarily with the Crisis Pregnancy Center in nearby Lyon.

Bill is a retired postal worker from Miami who also performed as a professional clown in a number of local churches during the summer.

Short-term volunteers who came to North Delta Association to help organize and repair toys for distribution to needy families during the Christmas season included James and Janet Scott, Alexander City, Ala.; Ken and Norma Leake, Clayton, Ala.; and Ruth Stevens, Florence.

More than 370 children received toys this year, and 110 families were assisted with food needs during the holidays.

For information on the Mission Service Corps program, contact Elmer Goble, director of the Mis-

sion Service Corps, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, 4200 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30202-4174.

Johnson is director of missions for North Delta Association.



M.C. Johnson (left), director of missions for North Delta Association, presents a gift of appreciation to Tony and Marilyn Mosley of Stapleton, Ala., during an appreciation luncheon as they completed their first assignment in the association for the Mission Service Corps program of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.



LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

Every Sunday, this family sits next to me with a squirmy four-year-old child. I find this very distracting to my worship. What should I do?

If the parents do nothing to involve the child in the worship process, you can help him find songs in the hymnbook or open a Bible for him to the passage that the pastor is reading. Even though he cannot read at this age, he can follow your fingers across the page. This will help train him for worship. Bring coloring materials and allow him to draw. If you do not feel comfortable taking these steps, move to a different location in the sanctuary. The child will eventually grow out of this stage, and you can reclaim your "spot." Lastly, your church's minister for children and the preschool Sunday School teacher can be made aware of this situation so they can offer suggestions to the child's parents on how to prepare him for the worship service.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Children seem to be growing up faster these days. Is this true?

Statistics appear to agree with your observation. James Dobson of Focus on the Family ministries reports in his book, **Hide and Seek**, that the average age of menarche (beginning of menstruation) is today around 12.6 years, compared to 12.9 years in 1950 and 14.2 years in 1900. This fact is likely due to steadily-improving nutrition, medicine, exercise, rest habits, and recreation in this century. Additionally, young people are constantly bombarded with cultural messages implying that they are ready for adulthood. Physically, they may be ready for adulthood, but emotionally they are not ready. Parents and children alike are caught up in our society's compulsion to take on more and more activities. As a result, many of us are worshiping our work, working at play, and playing at worship.

FORT WORTH (BP) — A budget revision and staff affirmation resolution were approved by Radio and Television Commission trustees during their Jan. 15-16 meeting in Fort Worth.

The operating budget was

Earle P. Elkins, missionary to Honduras, dies

Earle P. Elkins, 66, died of cancer Jan. 20 at his home in Ellisville. Funeral services were held Jan. 22 at First Church, Laurel. Burial followed in Hickory Grove Cemetery.

Elkins was a member and deacon at First Church, Laurel. He served as missionary to Honduras for nine years after his retirement from Halliburton Industries.

Elkins is survived by his wife Sue of Ellisville; two sons, Skosh of Laurel and Charlie of Ellisville; daughter Robin Worley of Dallas; two brothers, four sisters, and three grandchildren.

Names in the News

Michael Patilla, classical guitarist, will perform Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Lucille Parker Art Gallery at William Carey College. Patilla was named overall winner in the 1992 Birmingham Music Club Scholarship Competition. He holds a master of music degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is on the music faculties of Alabama Southern College, Monroeville, and Andrew College, Cuthbert, Ga.

Pilgrims Rest Church, Crystal Springs, will honor **George Patrick Bufkin** on his retirement from the ministry. A reception will be held on Jan. 28 from 2-4 p.m.

Vince Smith was named executive director of The Atlanta Union Mission. He has been with the Mission since 1990, most recently as director of men's services at The Shepherd's Inn and The Carpenter's House. Before going to the Mission he pastored churches in Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama. In Mississippi, he served as pastor of Fifteenth Avenue Church, Meridian.

Lucille D. Carter, a Petal resident who died recently, has made William Carey College one of her beneficiaries. She requested that the college establish a scholarship in memory of her mother, Eugenia Dawsey. The \$25,000 gift will provide scholarships which may be awarded to students in any field of study, with particular attention given to deserving students preparing for full-time religious vocations.

trustee prayer requests developed to identify specific concerns board members want to express."

The restructuring, approved by messengers to the 1995 SBC annual meeting in Atlanta, will reduce the number of SBC agencies from 19 to 12. Messengers are scheduled to vote on a bylaws change at this year's annual meeting in New Orleans, with implementation of the restructuring slated by July 1997.

There were 15 specific prayer requests related to the transition to the NAMB. Johnson said the requests were "very positive" and that trustees made a covenant to pray on the issues relating to the transition.

Co-Lin to host Feb. 17 CML workshop for area librarians

Copiah and Lincoln Associations will host a Church Media Library Workshop from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Feb. 17 in the Lincoln Associational office in Brookhaven.

Lawrence and Pike Associations will also join in the workshop. All church librarians are encouraged to attend.

Peggy Tacon from Mobile,

Ala., an approved Baptist Sunday School Board Church Media Library conference leader, will lead a session on classification and cataloging.

Lunch is complimentary. Reservations can be made by calling Lincoln Association at (601) 833-8111, Agatha Sandidge at (601) 833-5162, or Joan Beasley at (601) 894-2984 no later than Feb. 9.

Put A Sharp Pencil To It

The phone conversation continued...

"Now, let me be sure," said the Education Director, "that I have the figures correct.

"To use the front page of **The Baptist Record** for our weekly mail-out, will cost our church **\$55 per week**.

"Then the **Every Family Plan** will cost our church **53 cents per family** per month....

"Hmm-m-m... let me see... That is... We're paying more than that each week for our present mail-out!"

It's worth a look.

Call Circulation Manager Renee Walley at (800) 748-1651



"THAT'S A GOOD SIGN."

State students awarded degrees from SWBTS

Mississippians receiving doctoral degrees from Southwestern Seminary during the Dec. 15 commencement were Danny K. Wilson, Corinth, doctor of philosophy, and James Kelly Barnett, Magee, doctor of ministry.

Receiving their masters' degrees were Thomas David Estes, Natchez, Wilson, master of arts in religious education, and Sarah

Ellen Tillery, Laurel, master of arts in religious education and the master of arts in marriage/family counseling.

Karl Minor received the associate in divinity degree. Jimmy Rogers received the certificate of Christian studies. Both Jimmy Collins and Halton Davis Barnett received a diploma and certificate.

Graduates with state ties earn degrees from SBTs

Mississippians receiving doctoral degrees from Southern Seminary during commencement exercises Dec. 15 were Kenneth Ralph Lyle, Clinton, doctor of philosophy; and David Ralph Mitchell, Pontotoc, now pastor of Van Winkle Lyle Church, Jackson, doctor of ministry.

Receiving their master's degrees were Mitchell C. Huskison, Pontotoc,

Archibald Bland Campbell, Indianola, master of arts in Christian education; Christopher Reagan Schansberg, Fairfax, Va., master of divinity, and his wife Veronni Lee Schansberg, Pascagoula, master of divinity.

Jerry Andrew Schaefer, Tupelo, received a certificate in ministry training.

HOUSETOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

January 25, 1996

HouseTops is a supplement to the **Baptist Record** and is produced by the Office of Communication, MBCB.



DARE TO CARE

Project HELP: AIDS is a national ministry project of Woman's Missionary Union. The purpose of this national ministry project is to share the gospel while meeting both physical and spiritual needs, and mobilizing WMU resources to develop ministry models for meeting needs of those affected by the AIDS epidemic.

Churches and individuals hopefully will be motivated to ongoing action in meeting needs related to AIDS. The culmination of Project HELP: AIDS will take place on Feb. 11, 1996. On that day, WMU members will lead their church families to participate in DARE TO CARE, a nationwide ingathering of items needed by local AIDS ministries, plus one dollar per item.

For additional information, contact your associational WMU director, who has a resource kit containing clip art, list of products available, conference outlines, and many other helps.

STARTER KITS for WMU, Women on Mission, Acteens, Girls in Action, and Mission Friends are available - call Mississippi WMU at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800. These kits are recommended for those individuals and churches who desire to start WMU or age-level organizations. If you do not have any of these organizations, call today for information on how to begin.

Created to *Celebrate*
Lift His NAME
The Christian Performing Arts Festival '96

**Alta Woods Baptist Church
March 29-30, 1996 • \$20 per person**

This year our featured guest will be "Re:Creations," a husband and wife drama team out of Maryville, Tenn. Charles M. Reese and Rebecca McCoy Reese of Re:Creations will be featured in the creative worship services and will also lead several drama conferences during the festival. Some of the other drama conferences will be storyboard telling, script writing, interpretive movement, acting and directing. Conferences will also be offered in beginning and advanced puppetry, beginning and advanced clowning, and several conference selections in church recreation. Look for the festival brochure in early February or call Wes Pegues at 1-800-748-1651.



Re:Creations

Let's pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P. O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-PRAY

January 26-February 22

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
someone to help Colombian national missionary Azeneth Viera as she witnesses	the music ministry of Greg Massey in Argentina that people will be led to Christ	a growing Vietnamese work led by James Graham and others in Canada	Ernest Robledo and helpers in converting a garage into Sunday School classrooms	seven new ministries that need Hispanic leaders in Shoal Creek Assn, Missouri	good communication for catalytic missionary Andrew Chan and six pastorless China churches in California	energy/good health for Mary Simmons, church and home missionary in Hungary
spiritual uplifting for Chris Harbin, leading Theological Education by Extension in South Brazil	completion of day care/worship facility for Bill Abbott in Hawaii	Judy Ridgway as she works on a children's lesson book in Bulgaria	Betty Hart and her work in a fishing village in Chile, which needs adult leaders	housing and warm clothes for cold orphans in Russia who survived an earthquake	Martha Beal as she returns to Venezuela as a church and home missionary	encouragement for Henry Trull, pastor of a small church in Chester, West Virginia
Susan Carlisle, church and home missionary to Uruguay	increased support for Roberta Staiti, MSC volunteer, Salome Indian C.B.C., Phoenix, Ariz.	US-2 missionary Lorie Thomas, whose car was stolen in Salt Lake City, Utah	Dona Fitzgerald's archeology hobby to open doors to the gospel in Gaza (Middle East)	Charles ("Chip") Collins, missionary evangelist in Suriname	Jey Thomas, who works with Cambodians and Vietnamese in Kentucky	Anne Dent in Singapore, helping as an associate to the area director for South Asia
encouragement for Sherry Sims, church and home outreach in Ghana	John McQueen, Riverside, Washington, that they will be able to move a new church from a trailer to a build-	ing a deaf group in Trinidad/Tobago that they can hear the Holy Spirit's call	good health and joy for James Hearn, evangelist in Lome, Togo	medical conferences planned for March 1996 in Venezuela	starting today, Winter VBS in Caribou, Maine, led by Armand Jalbert	

10th Annual STATE-WIDE Growth Spiral Conference

February 12, 1996
Trinity Baptist Church, Southaven
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Conference fee \$5.00.
Provides lunch and conference materials.



Growth Consultant in the Pastor-Staff Section, General Leadership Department, Bible Teaching-Reaching Division of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. He is a former Mississippian.

Experience Growth
Through a Dynamic,
Balanced
Sunday School
Ministry

SCHEDULE	
8:30	Conference Registration/ Fellowship
9:00-Noon	Conference
Noon-1:00	Lunch
1:00-3:00	Conference
3:00	Dismiss

GA/ ACTEENS DAYS

*MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE
FEBRUARY 17, 1996

Time: 3:30 p.m.
(program begins)

Ballgame: 5:45 p.m.

Cost: \$7.50 per person
(includes program, limited insurance, supper, and the game)

Deadline: February 12, 1996

* Limited seating

School Choice for GA/Acteens Day _____
Name of Church _____
Association _____
Leader Name (Person sending registration) _____
Address _____
Daytime Phone Number _____
Church Phone Number _____
Amount Enclosed: \$7.50 x # _____ = \$ _____
(Please make checks payable to: Woman's Missionary Union)
Mail to:
GA/Acteens Day at _____ (School Above)
Woman's Missionary Union
P.O. Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205

HOUSE TOPS



AWARDS ENTRY FORM

April 19-20, 1996—

Awards Banquet on Friday, April 19, 7-9 p.m.

Workshops on Saturday, April 20, 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church, 1300 West Capitol Street, Jackson

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

One award for VIDEO (broadcast or non-broadcast) and one award for RADIO in each category in each division. One award only for Best First Time Entry.

1. **BEST PROGRAM**
 - A. MISSIONS / EVANGELISM
 - B. CHURCH MUSICALS
 - C. COMMUNITY SERVICE (i.e., human interest, sports, and others)
2. **BEST SPOT**
3. **BEST FIRST TIME ENTRY**

Division I

People using VHS Camcorders or other consumer/industrial-grade equipment in production as well as volunteers or small budget projects.

Division II

People using S-VHS, 3/4-inch, 3/4-inch SP, BetaCam and other broadcast type equipment. Also have a professional in charge or outside production house. This also applies to radio stations or other professional sound productions.

ENTRY PROCEDURE:

1. Each entry must include: • An entry form, description and fee.
• **A \$5.00 fee per entry** (Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board)
2. A separate entry form and fee is required for each category entered. Duplicate the entry form, if necessary.
3. Entry fee does not apply to workshop registration fee.
4. Submit video program and spot entries on 1/2 inch VHS in SP mode only.
Submit audio program and spot entries on audio cassette tape.
5. Submit each program entry on a separate tape and clearly label with:
• Name of Local ACTS Board or Church
• Title of Entry
• Category Name
• Original Running Time
6. The program should have been aired or viewed prior to February 26, 1996.
7. The judges reserve the right to move an entry to an appropriate category, add or delete categories.
8. All questions must be answered on entry form.

Entries must be in the office of Broadcast Services at the Baptist Building no later than **FEBRUARY 26, 1996, 4:45 p.m.**

ENTRY FORM

Entry Title _____	Original Running Time _____
Category Name _____	
Division I or II _____	
Name of Entrant (LAB, Church, etc.) _____	
Contact Person _____	Position _____
Address _____	City _____ State _____
Zip _____	
Office phone _____	Home phone _____

SHOULD YOU WIN...give exact name of organization as you want it to appear on award _____

Date Entry Shown: _____
Statement of Purpose: _____

Description of Production Process: format, type of equipment, personnel (volunteers or paid), preparation, editing (in-house or outside), location, etc. Include name of production company if applicable, and percent of professional personnel and volunteers used in production.

Results/Response:

I CERTIFY THAT THE WORK SUBMITTED IN THIS ENTRY IS MY PERSONAL WORK OR WAS DONE UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION.

Signature: _____

MAILED TO: Farrell Blankenship, MBIB Entry or
P. O. Box 530
Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Farrell Blankenship, MBIB Entry
515 Mississippi Street
Jackson, MS 39201-1702

Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir

• Auditions •

FEBRUARY

- 1 FBC, Biloxi — 5-8 pm
- 2 Central BC, McComb — 5-8 pm
- 3 University BC, Hattiesburg — 9 am-2 pm
- 13 Baptist Building, Jackson — 5-8 pm
- 22 FBC, Greenwood — 5-8 pm
- 26 North Oxford BC, Oxford — 5-8 pm
- 27 Harrisburg BC, Tupelo — 5-8 pm
- 29 Emmanuel BC, Columbus — 5-8 pm

MARCH

- 2 Baptist Building, Jackson — 9am-2 pm
(instrumental audition on this date, also)

Auditions will include:

- A solo (no-tapes)
- Sightreading
- Tonal Memory
- Singing their voice part from a hymn

Audition Fee: \$3.00 per person

Registration Deadline: One week prior to audition

Contact the Church Music Department at 1-800-748-1651 for further details on these auditions.

WOMEN ON MISSION OLYMPICS

Attention Senior Women!

50 & older

Mark this date on your calendar:

May 30, 1996

SENIOR OLYMPICS at **CAMP GARAYWA**
10 a.m.- 3 p.m. • Cost: \$7.50

Fee covers lunch, limited insurance, missionary speaker, competitive olympic games, athletic activities, individual and group achievement, and fellowship with other Christian seniors.

Church Orchestra Festival

Saturday, February 17
Crossgates Baptist Church, Brandon

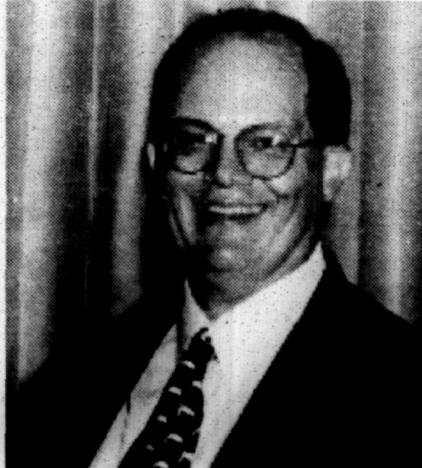
"Let Everything that Hath Breath Praise the Lord"

Guidelines

- Minister of music and instrumentalists are invited to attend and listen or play in the Mass Orchestra.
- All percussion equipment will be available at the church.

Schedule

8:00 Registration
8:30 Mass Orchestra
9:30 Guest Orchestra, Crossgates BC, Brandon
10:00 Guest Orchestra, Alta Woods BC, Jackson
10:30 Break
10:45 Guest Orchestra, Pine Lake BC, Brandon
11:15 Mass Orchestra
12:30 Dismissal



Clinician:
Bruce Zeiger
Former trumpet soloist with
the Air Force Band

For more information about the Church Orchestra Festival, contact the Church Music Dept. of the MBCB at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651

HOUSE TOPS

WOMEN'S CELEBRATION

February 2 & 3, 1996
First Baptist Church, Clinton



Lee Ezell



Anne Davis



Madeline Mims

Deadline: January 29, 1996
(No refund after this date)

Motels

COMFORT INN (Clinton) - 924-9364
1 Adult - \$50.00 plus tax
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(\$5.00 each additional adult)

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\$60.00 for 3 or more adults
Suites - (2 people) - \$60.00
Jacuzzi Room - \$75.00
(All rooms have a microwave and refrigerator.)

BEST WESTERN METRO INN - 355-7483
Single outside - \$41.00 plus tax
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Single inside (pool side) - \$45.00 plus tax
Double inside (pool side) - \$49.00 plus tax
(\$5.00 each additional adult)

**RAMADA INN SOUTHWEST (Metro)
944-1150**
Single - \$49.00 plus tax
Double - \$55.00 plus tax
(Up to 4 per room)

**HOLIDAY INN - Highway 80 West
355-3472**
\$58.00 plus tax
up to 4 per room

If you are interested in registering for Women's Celebration, contact the Woman's Missionary Union of the MBCB at 1-800-748-1651.

ON THE JOURNEY IN 1996

Women on Mission Activities

FEBRUARY	2 - 3	WOMEN'S CELEBRATION; First Baptist Church, Clinton; (4:00 p.m. Friday - 12:30 p.m. Saturday)
	11 - 17	FOCUS ON WMU
APRIL	26 - 27	FATHER/DAUGHTER OVERNIGHT; Camp Garaywa
MAY	30	WOMEN ON MISSION SENIOR OLYMPICS; Camp Garaywa (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
JUNE	20 - 22	NATIONWIDE WOMEN ON MISSION TRAINING; Hempstead, N.Y.
JULY	12 - 13	MOTHER/DAUGHTER OVERNIGHT; Camp Garaywa
	20 - 24	FAMILY MISSIONS BLITZ; Natchez (All family members ministering: nurses, recreation, witnessing, Bible clubs, construction, etc. Also: Home tours, fishing, golf, etc.)
	18 - 20; 25 - 27; 30 - Aug. 1	GROWING CHURCHES: Training Leaders Conference; Gulfshore
	30 - Aug. 1	WMU CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING; Camp Garaywa
AUGUST	2-3 3-9	ASSOCIATIONAL WMU TRAINING; Camp Garaywa WMU WEEK; Glorieta
SEPTEMBER	20 - 21	CELEBRATE WOMEN ON MISSION (begins 4:00 p.m. Friday, ends Saturday noon); Gulfshore
OCTOBER	18 - 19	CELEBRATE WOMEN ON MISSION; Camp Lake Stephens

For more information call Edna Ellison, 1-800-748-1681 or (601) 968-3800, ext. 3916 or 3924.

Pleasant Grove Church, Clarke Co., honors former pastor J.H. Kennedy

Pleasant Grove Church, Clarke County, honored J. Hardee Kennedy on Sunday, Jan. 14, by designating him pastor emeritus.

Kennedy has served the church as pastor on two occasions, and several other times as its interim pastor during the last 57 years.

Kennedy retired in 1981 from his position as vice president for academic affairs at New Orleans Seminary, where he had taught for 37 years.

Kennedy was born in Clarke County on June 12, 1915. He preached his first sermon in Pleasant Grove Church in 1937, only a few days after he announced that he was called to preach. The church called him as its pastor in 1939.

In 1985 the church again called him as its pastor and Kennedy again served the church. Today, Roger Carlisle is the church's pastor, and Kennedy continues to be a member of the church and an adult Sunday School teacher.

On Jan. 14, Kennedy was hon-

ored by the church in a surprise service. Kennedy was teaching the book of Amos in the annual January Bible Study, when Carlisle announced that Kennedy would sit and listen instead of teach in the afternoon service.

Four speakers followed Carlisle to the pulpit to praise Kennedy. The service concluded when Bob Jones, chairman of the deacons, along with Carlisle, presented Kennedy a plaque and resolution naming him pastor emeritus. C.Z. Holland, still an active



Kennedy

pastor at 92, told of some experiences during Kennedy's student days at Clarke College where Holland was president.

Van Dyke Quick represented Mississippi College (MC) in paying tribute to Kennedy, a 1939 MC graduate.

Bob Simmons, retired SBC missionary, pastor, and professor of missions at New Orleans Seminary, shared memories of Kennedy's early days on the seminary faculty.

J. Terry Young, professor of theology at New Orleans Seminary, said Kennedy's life and ministry could be summed up in eight words: dignity, gracious, integrity, meticulous, rigorous, commitment, compassion, and example.

LEGISLATION

From Page 3

it in a very limited time frame. This bill will essentially legalize gambling in all 82 Mississippi counties.

At the same time, HB 126 legalizes pari-mutuel gambling on horse races.

HB 266 removes certain tax-exempt charitable organizations from gambling laws and allows them to operate up to five slot machines.

Three bills (HB 73, HB 74, and HB 75) would allow convicted

felons to be employed by casinos after specified lengths of time.

HB 466 would prohibit bingo games within 1,500 feet of a school or kindergarten.

Representatives and Senators can be contacted during the legislative session at P.O. Box 1018, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 359-3770.

For more information, contact the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission (CAC) at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

Jones is CAC executive director. Holmes is CAC consultant for women's and family issues.

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B E S O N D I V I N I T Y S C H O O L

Soli Deo
Gloria!

"Who knows what foundations may be shaken, or kingdoms overthrown, or stirrings of the spirit set loose in a place like this?"

Dean Timothy George

The new Beeson Divinity School chapel at Samford University was recently consecrated to the glory of God in a series of dedication festivities. Beeson offers MDiv, MTS and DMin degree programs. For more information, write Paul R. Lloyd, director of admissions, at the address below or call 800-888-8266.



Samford University
Birmingham, Alabama 35229

Samford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution and welcomes applications for employment and educational programs from all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, handicap or national or ethnic origin. Beeson is affiliated with the National Association of Evangelicals.

Thursday, January 25, 1996

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Band celebrates anniversary

The Mississippi College (MC) Band, 155th Infantry, 31st Division, recently celebrated its 55th anniversary on the MC campus. Band members who marked the celebration were (left to right): seated, Mrs. John Hanberry of Clinton; Mrs. Roland Marble of Jackson; Mrs. Howard Morton of Monroe, La.; standing, John Hanberry, MC professor of music and director of the MC band; Ed Luper of Jackson, saxophone; Roland Marble of Jackson, trombone; Howard Morton of Monroe, La., trumpet; and John DeFoore of Comfort, Texas, bass horn.

Mission Offerings

Angel Tree, local Sav-A-Life, and Women's Hospital. Joe Holcomb is pastor.

Terry Road Church, Jackson

son, set a goal of \$2,600 for the

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

That goal was reached on Dec. 24.

Hepzibah Church, Lawrence

Association, set its goal of

\$1,500 for the Lottie Moon

Christmas Offering. Final offer-

ing totaled \$2,660. Lois

Hedgepath is the WMU director

and Paul Wilbourn is pastor.

Union Chapel Church, Lee

Association, a small congrega-

tion of about 30 people, gave

\$425 to the Lottie Moon Christ-

mas Offering. Marion Holley is

pastor.

Liberty Church, Mississippi

Association, set a goal of \$5,300

for the Lottie Moon Christmas

Offering. The church met and

exceeded the goal with an

offering of \$6,133.07. Martin

Hayden is pastor.

Grandview Church, Pearl,

exceeded its Lottie Moon Christ-

mas Offering on the first Sunday

that the offering was taken. Wade

Chappell is pastor.

Wallerlville Church, Union

County, gave \$4,127 to the Lottie

Moon Christmas Offering, which

was the largest ever received. Ray

Burks is pastor.

New Zion Church, Crystal

Springs, set a goal of \$8,500 for

the Lottie Moon Christmas Offer-

ing and received \$8,610. Leroy J.

Brewer Jr. is pastor.

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Thursday, January 25, 1996

Just for the Record



Gospel singer Andre Crouch (right) preached and performed during the evening worship service at North Morton Church, Morton, on Jan. 7. His sister Sondra (left) joined him at the service. Roy Clark is North Morton pastor.

Southeast Area Leadership Training (SALT) is scheduled April 12-13 at Temple Church, Hattiesburg. The times are 7-9 p.m. Friday, and 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday. As many as 90 conferences will provide church leaders training in topics such as Helping Youth Make The Right Choices, Using Music With Preschoolers, Teaching With Style, and How To Know And Do The Will Of God. This event will provide a level of training equal to that offered at Glorieta and Ridgecrest conference centers. For more information contact your pastor and/or director of missions.

Broadmoor Church, Jackson, will host an area women's conference, "Gaining Strength," on Feb. 23-24. Featured speaker for the conference will be



Jenny Broughton of Oklahoma City, Okla. The conference will also include sessions on dealing with stress, Bible study, physical

fitness, and prayer, along with special music. The conference is a ministry of Broadmoor's Sisters in the Lord group, and is open to

women of all ages. Cost is \$20 per person. Sessions will be held Friday, Jan. 23, from 5:30-9:15 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 24, 8:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Registration deadline is Feb. 7. For more information, call Broadmoor Church at (601) 366-8433.

First Church, Gulfport, will host **Steve Green** in a concert titled "People Need the Lord," on Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 per person. For more information, call the church at (601) 863-8501.

Lamar Association, Purvis, is in need of 25 copies of the 1995 adult student Winter Bible Study books, **GALATIANS Saved by Grace**. These books will be used in Bible study at the Lamar County jail. Contact J.L. Farlow, 210 Richburg Road, Purvis MS 39475 or call (601) 268-7334.

Midway Church, Newton, will hold a dedication service on Jan 28 at 2:30 p.m. for newly installed stained glass windows. The windows were donated in memory of Sherry Pierce (Mrs. Billy Pierce) by her husband and children.

Mississippi College (MC) will host approximately 1,600 of Mississippi's brightest students on Feb. 1-2 for the 22nd annual Mis-

Staff Changes

Broadmoor Church, Jackson, has called **Mike Harland** as minister of music. The Corinth native is a graduate of Delta State University and New Orleans Seminary. He previously served Calvary Church, Cleveland; Parkview Church, Greenville; Istrouma

Church, Baton Rouge, La.; First Church, McComb; and Crossgates Church, Brandon. Harland has composed over 30 works for publication, including Word Music's top 1995 anthem, "Playing Games at the Foot of the Cross." He and his wife have two children.

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sissippi Science and Mathematics Tournament. Sponsored by the MC departments of biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics, the tournament recognizes students and their high schools for outstanding achievement in these fields of study. Approximately \$95,000 in academic scholarships to MC will be available to the winning students. Jerry Cannon, MC professor of chemistry, is tournament coordinator.

The MC Chamber Choir will perform at Van Winkle Church, Jackson, Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. The choir is under the direction of Richard Joiner. For more information, call the Music Department at (601) 925-3440.

First Church, Columbus, will host "The Mind of Christ," a conference based on the study of Philippians, on Jan. 28-31. T.W. Hunt was originally scheduled to conduct the conference, but he will be replaced by leaders Jim and Kaye Johns of Dallas. Hunt recently underwent emergency triple bypass surgery. The conference sessions will be held at 6 p.m. on Jan. 28; and at 12 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Jan. 29-31. Noon meals are available for \$2.50. For more information, contact the church Education Office at (601)

Revival Dates

Carey Chapel, Mt. Pleasant: April 21-26; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Jack Gregory, pastor, evangelist; Brad Jones Family, Meridian, music.

Deanna Kemp of Forest will perform a program of classical vocal works in her senior recital, Jan 30, 8:15 p.m. in Aven Hall at Mississippi College. She is the daughter of David and Jean Hawkins of Forest and Dwight Kemp of Jackson.

NASHVILLE (BP) — **Charles A. Wilson**, vice president of the Baptist Sunday School Board's trade publishing group, has resigned, effective Jan. 31, according to President James T. Draper Jr. Wilson, who plans to pursue other business-ministry activities, has led the board's Broadman & Holman Publishers since 1992.

Michael C. Maddock, Jackson, has been named to the Dean's List for fall quarter 1995 at Jefferson Davis Community College, Brewton, Ala.

Clark Measells has been named the dean of the division of fine arts at Carson Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., effective August of 1996. A native of Morton, he is a graduate of William Carey and Southern Seminary. He is presently the chairman of the music department. His wife, Nenette Leatherwood, a native of Decatur, is campus minister at Carson Newman.

Mary Alice Melton, 91, of Yazoo City, died of heart failure at her daughter's home on Jan. 5.

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Names in the News

Funeral services were held Jan. 8 at Center Ridge Church, Yazoo City, where she was a longtime member. She was the first woman elected to the position of Sunday School superintendent at Center Ridge.

Wayne VanHorn, former professor of Old Testament at New Orleans Seminary and current pastor of First Church, Columbia, has written an overview of the book of Amos entitled **The Lion Has Roared**. He may be contacted at (601) 736-2608.

Walter Ballard, director of missions for Panola Association, was one of nine Mississippians who traveled to Venezuela in November for evangelistic crusades in Maracaibo. A story in **The Baptist Record** on Dec. 21, left out his name as one of the participants. Said Ballard of the trip, "When I hit the ground back in Panola my feelings were in between shame and exhilaration. Shame because we do so little with our much; exhilaration because they do so much with their little."

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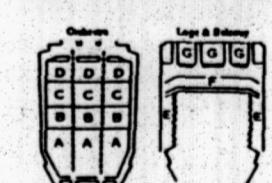
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Uniform The suffering Servant



By David Mitchell
Isaiah 53

Isaiah 52:13 through 53:12 constitute the fourth Servant Song. The prophet began this portion of Scripture by saying that what he is about to relate, probably no one will believe.

The Servant's appearance (vv. 2-3). Although the author never specifically names the Servant, the identity of the Servant is clearly an Israelite whose suffering would be substitutionary. The "we" of verse 2 appears to be Israel. Although the issue is strongly debated, there can be no question that Jesus Christ was the ultimate fulfillment of the Servant prophecy.

The Servant is described by terms that would be unattractive to anyone. He is described as a root out of the dry ground. His appearance was not flattering. Those who saw him would be repelled rather than attracted. His appearance was so repulsive that men would hide their faces from him and despise him so that he was not counted worthy of esteem (v. 3). He would appear as a "tender plant," yet he would grow up before God.

The Servant's suffering (vv. 4-6). Although Israel found him repulsive to view, they came to understand that their sins caused his suffering. The language of verse 4 leaves no question as to the purpose of his suffering: "Surely our griefs he, even he, has lifted up and born away." They had a completely wrong assessment of the Servant's condition. The first assumption was that his suffering was for his own sins, yet in reality they discovered that he was suffering for their sins. Verse 6 reminds us that all people wander away from God, as sheep stray from the shepherd. Sheep often "get lost" following the flock; men are lost, however, because of their own sinfulness and decisions.

The Servant did not just happen to receive the burden of man's sins. Rather, they were purposefully placed upon him by God. It is important to note that "all of us" indicates a universal all. The Lord has caused the Servant to suffer for the sins of all, universally.

At times our personal suffering may seem unfair or wrong. However, God often uses our response, action, and attitude in suffering to build our faith, the faith of others, or to lead someone else to salvation. The difficulty is often that we are unaware of what benefit our pain has been to others. God promised that all things will work together for good for them that love the Lord and are called according to his purpose.

The Servant's victory (vv. 10-11). Verse 8 relates the shame in the Servant's death and verse 9 notes his burial was also shameful. Yet his death of dishonor among common thieves and criminals was turned to honor because of his innocence. Clearly verse 9 relates that the Servant was innocent and without sin or blame. Verse 10 describes the pouring out of his life for the sins of others. Through so doing, the Servant finds victory in death, not defeat. The prophet promises in verse 11 that the Servant will see the results of his substitutionary suffering and death, and that he will be satisfied in the gift that he has given. His mission will be crowned with success. His people will be justified.

A man had the duty of raising a drawbridge to allow the steamers to pass on the river below and to lower it again for trains to cross over on land. One day the man's son went to work with him. Playing around a door that had been left open so the father could see the gears of the bridge, the boy suddenly lost his footing and fell into the gears. As the father tried to reach down and pull him out he heard the whistle of the train. Knowing the train did not have time to stop he faced a dilemma: if he saved the people, his son would be crushed in the cogs. If he saved his son, the train would crash. Finally the father put his hands to the lever that would start the machinery. He paused, then with tears in his eyes, he pulled the lever. The train's passengers, not knowing what the father had done, were laughing and making merry, yet the bridge-keeper had chosen to save their lives at the cost of his son. Our heavenly Father, too, saw the blessed Savior being nailed to the cross while people laughed and mocked and spit upon him. Yet "he spared not his own son, but delivered him up for us all."

Mitchell is pastor of Van Winkle Church, Jackson.

Bible Book Guidelines for living



By Clayton Littlejohn
Colossians 3, 4

Paul's guidelines for Christian living reveal that Christians' lives should be characterized by service to Christ and to one another. Some put it this way: "If you are going to talk the talk, then you must walk the walk!" In fact, what Paul said is: "Christians, do what Christians are supposed to do — and here are some guidelines."

Most of us desire to serve Christ and to love one another; yet, maybe no one has ever looked you eye to eye and said, "This is how you do it right." Paul does that for us here. Let's follow him.

Establish spiritual priorities (3:1-4). The Christian can begin to grow in Christ when he realizes his position in Christ. As believers we "have been raised up with Christ." Our baptism is a picture of our position in Christ. Standing in the water symbolizes we have died to our old sinful nature. Immersion symbolizes we bury that old self. Coming up out of the water symbolizes a new life in Christ. Paul gives a vivid picture of this death, burial, and resurrection in Romans 6:1-14. Because of our position in Christ — "raised up" — we should seek "the things above..." (v. 1).

What are these things? It is Christ and the things of his kingdom. Before, our thoughts were on earthly things; now they should be on heavenly things: grace, mercy, lost souls, righteousness, etc.

We still live in this world; so how do we seek those things above? It begins with the mind (v. 2). "Set your mind" speaks of a definite act. The mind will control the actions, according to Proverbs 23:7. Therefore, put your mind on Christ and you will think and act like Christ.

Why should we do this? Because "you have died..." The world needs to see Jesus, not you and me. As a Christian it is my obligation and privilege to draw the attention of the world to Jesus. I can only do this when I die to self and allow Jesus to live through me.

Put off earthly things (3:5-11). How does one who lives in this world put off earthly things? By realizing that my position in Christ not only freed me from the debt of sin, but it also freed me from the power of sin. With my new life in Christ I can consider myself dead to things like immorality (any sexual relationship outside marriage), impurity (any sexual thoughts or words), passion (uncontrolled desires), evil desires, and greed (burning desire for more) which amounts to idolatry (v. 5). A person will become whatever idol he creates (Psalm 115:4-8; Hosea 9:10). We desire to be Christlike, so we must die to those things which are worldly.

In verses 8-10, Paul gives us some "dos and don'ts" of Christian living. First the don'ts: "Put them all aside..." like taking off dirty clothes. Do not put on "anger (habitual attitude), wrath (habitual outburst), malice (get-even attitude), slander (tearing someone down), abusive speech (dirty language), and lying" (vv. 8-9). These are things the unsaved do, so to believers they are "don'ts."

As believers we are to "put on the new self... to the image of the One who created him." Simply put, we are to become more like Jesus. How? Do things Christ would do (Matt. 25:35-40), and do not show partiality for those to whom you do them, or because of who you might think you are. We are one in Christ (v. 11).

Put on Christian behavior (3:12-17). Here is a portrait of that child of God who has put off the old self, and has put on the new self: Believers are special, "chosen to God" (v. 12), and "holy and beloved" (v. 12). They are "compassionate, kind, humble, gentle and patient" (v. 12). They "bear with one another and forgive each other..." just as Christ died for us (v. 13), and the greatest attribute of all is "putting on love" (v. 14).

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13 that, without love, we are nothing. There is no greater expression of Christlikeness than love, which will bring a "perfect bond of unity," and will allow the "peace of Christ to rule in your hearts" (v. 15).

Paul continues by giving guidelines on how to "maintain right relationships" (3:18-4:1) in the family and on the job, how to pray and witness (4:2-6), then he concludes with personal greetings (4:7-18) to many beloved friends.

Littlejohn is pastor of Ingram Church, Baldwyn.

Life and Work Maintaining relations



By Linda Donnell
Matthew 5

Our entire lives are lived within the context of relationships. From the very beginning God made us to be connected. It is these daily connections with the people around us that serve as the means by which Christ is able to work through us in the world.

As Jesus continued to teach his disciples, he took the sixth commandment and explained its full intent and breadth. Out of this explanation comes some valuable guides in maintaining relationships.

The act of the law was common knowledge: "Do not murder." But Jesus took the law further by suggesting that rash anger and verbal insults spoken out of malicious anger are also murder (v. 21). This should not imply that all anger is sinful. Even Jesus became angry (Mark 3:5, 11:15). But it should be recognized as a dangerous emotion that needs to be kept under control (Prov. 29:11, James 1:19).

Anger can eat away at the freedom of an individual. The result is imprisonment — not in a physical jail as murderers, but self imprisonment that destroys relationships.

Rather than nursing anger, Jesus taught his disciples to take responsibility for reconciling broken relationships. "First go and be reconciled to your brother" (v. 23). There is no mention of the other person nor the question of rights. It is a clear and simple directive. The disciple of Christ waives his rights in order to obey God.

Taking responsibility for reconciliation is not an easy task. It is not easy to confess that we are at fault and to humble ourselves before another person and ask for forgiveness.

In our mecho world some people have a warped image of the person who is willing to say, "I am sorry," or who forgives and forgets and begins again. The caricature that often comes to mind is one who is weak and "wimpy."

However, just the opposite is true. It takes a very strong person to go forward and ask for forgiveness and even to grant forgiveness to someone who has been hurtful. It is only in the movies where "love means never having to say 'I'm sorry.'" The attitude of the true Christian is to "bear with one another and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another" (Col. 3:13).

The process of mending broken relationships can be a productive learning experience that ultimately results in one's own good and God's glory. Just as a broken bone heals to be stronger than it was before, so is there often a deeper relationship after reconciliation has occurred. The person who was wronged does not soon forget the humility and repentance of the one who mistreated him or her. And the one who committed the offense appreciates the forgiving heart of the person who was hurt.

Not only does sinful anger rob us of the relationship with others, it hinders our relationship with God. Until things are made right with our brother, the Holy Spirit cannot do his work in our lives. Religious exercises are meaningless when done with anger and malice in our hearts (1 Tim. 2:8). Reconciliation should not only be done; it should be done quickly and it should be done now (v. 25).

Do you need to admit that you were wrong and move toward mending a relationship? This requires serious reflection and self-examination. Are you willing to obey God no matter the humiliation to you? The Sermon on the Mount is a statement of what a disciple will do when he fully accepts Christ into his heart.

Donnell is a member of First Church, Hattiesburg.

**BAPTIST
MEN'S DAY**
JANUARY 28, 1996
"LIVING GOD'S WORD"

capsules

BROTHERHOOD TAPS WELLS FOR VOLUNTEER POST: MEMPHIS (BP) — Herschel Wells, a 24-year veteran of the Brotherhood Commission, has been named associate director of the Southern Baptist agency's Adults in Missions Department. Wells will focus on matching requests for volunteers with contacts in state convention Brotherhood departments, local churches, and the National Fellowship of Baptists in Missions, with its 15 groups centering on members' vocational skills and interests. "Herschel Wells' selection for this post is another example of our agency's intention to continue our work in helping Southern Baptists be personally involved in missions, regardless of how we are structured in the future," said James D. Williams, Brotherhood Commission president. "The long-term goal, also unchanged, is to have more than 500,000 Southern Baptist volunteers involved annually in at least one missions project by the year 2000." The most recent figures available, from 1994, show more than 70,000 volunteers recruited through state convention Brotherhood departments taking part in more than 9,000 projects at home and abroad. The agency has estimated the value of their work at more than \$70 million.

BAPTIST CHURCH OFFERS TO BUY FAILED MEGACHURCH PROPERTY; DALLAS (ABP) — A Baptist church in suburban Dallas has voted to try to buy a landmark property of a charismatic megachurch that fell into bankruptcy. Lake Pointe Church in Roswell, Texas, voted Jan. 7 to offer \$4.6 million for building and property of the Church on the Rock. The 222,000-square-foot building, located prominently on Interstate 30 east of Dallas, originally cost about \$14 million and would cost \$21 million to build today, said Steve Stroope, pastor. Lake Pointe Church is an innovative church that uses contemporary worship services aimed at unchurched young adults. It averages about 3,000 in weekly attendance. Church on the Rock was formed in the 1980s. The church's founding pastor, Larry Lea, built a megachurch that drew 7,500 worshippers in its heyday 10 years ago. Currently, the church's average attendance is about 750.

ARAFAT TRIES TO CALM FEARS OF PILGRIMS IN BETHLEHEM: BETHLEHEM, West Bank (ABP) — In a message two days before Christmas, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat told Christian pilgrims in Bethlehem that Jesus was "a Palestinian revolutionary." The anti-Christian attack in danger Square, near the traditional site of Jesus' birth, was aimed at calming fears about oppression of Christians in Muslim-led Palestine, according to Ecumenical News International. Speaking to the crowds celebrating their first Christmas in Christ's birthplace since the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the town, Arafat also referred to Jesus as "Savior" and "Messiah." Muslims recognize Christ as a prophet and also honor his mother but reject the designation "Son of God." Arafat's wife Suhai, an Eastern Orthodox Christian, accompanied the leader to Roman Catholic ceremonies in Bethlehem on Dec. 24. She also attended an afternoon Protestant service at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bethlehem.

BILLY GRAHAM BROADCAST EXPECTED TO REACH 2.5 BILLION; MINNEAPOLIS (ABP) — Evangelist Billy Graham has announced plans for a prime-time television broadcast aimed at reaching 2.5 billion people in every country of the world. The effort, scheduled April 14, would present the gospel message to more people in one day than ever before, the evangelist said. The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association will broadcast the Global Television Series during prime time. Graham will preach in an evangelistic program that will be aired in 42 languages on national television in more than 160 countries. British pop singer Cliff Richard will host the telecast, which will include a cameo testimony appearance by former President Jimmy Carter. For most viewers, it will be the first exposure to a Graham crusade. "I believe this will have a far greater impact than anything we have done before," Graham said. Last year's satellite transmission of a Graham crusade in Puerto Rico reached an estimated 1 billion viewers.

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
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GML UT WCIU LBDL LBT SDU VX AIIO, VZ D EDC
MXT VL SDUZMSSJ;

ZVQXL LVEILBJ ICT: TVABL

This week's clue: U equals W.

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs Six: Six.

Air crash affects missionaries, reminds of need for outreach

CALI, Colombia (BP) — No one on earth will ever know how many of those who died aboard Flight 965 from Miami to Cali were spiritually prepared to stand before God.

But for many in Colombia, including Foreign Mission Board (FMB) missionaries John and Joyce Magyar, the impact of the fateful air disaster reached far beyond the mountainside where wreckage and bodies were strewn minutes before scheduled touchdown.

Probably none of the 164 people on board had any warning disaster loomed. The flight crew knew for only nine seconds. For the rest, death came suddenly and unexpectedly. Only four people and a dog — named "Lucky" by his rescuers — survived.

Many were returning to their native Colombia after trips or, in the case of at least two students, extended stays in the United States. Others — permanent residents in the country to the north — were coming to visit relatives. They came laden with gifts for Christmas, only five days away.

Although no Baptists were known to be on the flight, the Magyars, from St. Louis, have been involved "in a network of sorrow," he said. A family friend was among those killed. Many of their friends and acquaintances lost loved ones. One friend of the Magyars, a teacher, had taught 15 of the victims over the years.

"It's touched us on several different levels," said Magyar, a missionary in Colombia more than 25 years. "It's pretty much devastated



BEING THERE — John Magyar (right), a missionary with the Foreign Mission Board, and his Colombian friends Javier and Carlota Burbano share after-dinner conversation in Magyar's Cali, Colombia, home. Personal contacts with Colombians have opened ministry opportunities for Magyar and his wife Joyce since the Dec. deaths of 160 people aboard American Airlines Flight 965 from Miami to Cali. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

the circle of people we run with here in Cali. Plus, we make that flight frequently ourselves. I've been on it a hundred times, I guess, over the years. So I've had to deal with it some at that point, too."

In fact, Magyar returned to Cali aboard Flight 965 just three days after the Dec. 20 crash. He'd been at FMB offices in Richmond, Va.

Then and in later travel via American Airlines, Magyar spoke to airline personnel he knows, "telling them we're praying for them," he said.

Other ministry opportunities have arisen for the Magyars. "We've gone to memorial services and (funeral) masses. We've talked, prayed, and grieved with people," he said.

Meanwhile, Colombians in the United States also felt the tragedy's impact.

Colombian Jose Castillo, a Florida Baptist pastor, didn't know any of the victims or their families. But the sudden snuffing out of 160 lives reminded him of the urgency of evangelism.

"Perhaps some of these people's relatives (are) Christians who thought, 'When I'm better prepared, I'll testify to that person about Christ,'" said Castillo, who is starting a Spanish-language church in the Fort Lauderdale area. "Perhaps some of the victims thought, 'Some day when I'm better morally, I'll approach God.' Now it's too late for both. The time for evangelization is now."

Samford's Beeson Divinity School adds Methodist professor to faculty

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP) — A Methodist theologian has been added to the faculty of Samford University's Beeson Divinity School.

Craig Gallaway has been appointed to teach in the areas of Methodist studies and spirituality. Beeson Dean Timothy George announced in a news release dated Jan. 4.

George said adding Gallaway, the first full-time United Methodist faculty member at Beeson, "helps us to fulfill the founding vision of our school as an evangelical, interdenominational community of faith and learning."

The Beeson School of Divinity was established in 1988 with a bequest from the estate of philanthropist Ralph Waldo Beeson. Beeson, a retired insurance executive and Presbyterian layman, left gifts totaling \$31.8 million to the Baptist school in Birmingham, Ala., to establish an interdenominational, evangelical divinity school.

A 1994 lawsuit, however, claims Samford violated terms of the Beeson will by refusing to let a Presbyterian faculty member teach at the divinity school. The professor, John

Killinger, alleges he was denied teaching assignments because of his moderate theological views.

Rather than an ecumenical school, Beeson is fundamentalist and sectarian, advocating "the theology, liturgy, and biblical interpretation of the fundamentalist wing of the Southern Baptist Convention," Killinger's suit alleges.

Killinger's suit is pending in U.S. District Court. Samford sought to have the case dismissed last summer. Judge William Acker has yet to rule on that motion or set a trial date, the *Birmingham News* reported Jan. 8.

Samford officials have declined to comment on specific charges in the pending litigation but deny Killinger's allegations. The university "has not violated a single stipulation of the will of Mr. Beeson," said Bill Nunnelly, Samford's director of information services.

Since 1989, Gallaway has been editorial director of discipleship resources at the United Methodist Church's General Board of Discipleship in Nashville. He holds degrees from the University of Texas, Regent College, Candler School of

Theology, and Emory University.

The Beeson School currently enrolls more than 200 students in master of divinity, master of theological studies, and doctor of ministry programs.

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